

THE
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A MORNING PAPER.

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EDITOR

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HAWAII'S SCHOOL FINANCES

YESTERDAY the Legislature adjourned at noon, leaving no time for the consideration of the school budget. The bill was introduced by W. D. Baldwin, the State Superintendent of Schools, and was referred to the Committee on Education. The bill would have increased the amount of money available for the public schools from \$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000, and has been amended so as to increase the amount.

Following the adjournment of the session, the Board of Education of the State, which is composed of the members of the Legislature, met in the House chamber to consider the bill. It was voted to accept the bill as it stands.

Last night in a select session there was enacted a bill which cost \$2,000 less than the House bill of expenditures. Last year, during the session of 1909-1910, \$876,140 plus \$2,000 was appropriated. There has been a big falling off in expenditure for instruction purposes, amounting to a decrease from \$189,000 in 1909, from \$22,18 to \$22,000, the amount of money making the decrease during that period from \$10,655 to 10,474, being 1.75 per cent. In the same period the increase in the number of students has been only 1.47 per cent.

The commission has learned that spending money on new buildings should be employed now to take care of the number of pupils, while a large number of new buildings are necessary.

Comparing expenditures in Hawaii and the rest of the United States for schools, it is found that while the mainland expends 27 per cent of the total revenue, Hawaii only spends 11 per cent. Of course, available for territorial uses, Hawaii devotes 17 per cent.

The portion of the revenue that goes to the support of common schools in the Territory of Hawaii is less than one-tenth that devoted to common schools in the other States and Territories.

This is not the creditable showing which Hawaii should have. It is true that there are extraordinary expenditures in this Territory, that necessary for the settlement on Molokai being something required of no other State or Territory.

There should be more money for educational purposes, however, and there are only two ways to get it. One is from additional taxation; the other is by cutting down expenses elsewhere and putting the amount saved over to the schools.

If the various departments of the government were gone through and the dead wood cut out, the amount that might be saved in salaries for useless officials would go some considerable way in relieving the poverty of funds for educational purposes.

Money for schools must be had somewhere. If other expenses of government can not be curtailed, additional taxation must come.

THE QUESTION OF HARMONY.

Referring to Mr. Withington's letter, while no one questions that it is the right of every citizen to make such recommendations and sign such petitions as he may wish within certain limits, that is not the question here. This is a practical question as to the best course to pursue. It is known, or at least generally believed, that for some years past the President has looked largely to the Government as to recommendations for judicial appointments, and that the results of that course have been far more satisfactory than the results of a different course pursued during earlier years of the territorial government.

A special responsibility rests upon the Governor in such matters, which is not, and can not, be felt by large numbers of persons not in official relation to the appointing power. It is obviously better, because productive of better results, that, except in unusual cases, whatever opinion may be entertained upon subjects of this kind should be brought to bear on the Governor, and the matter threshed out here rather than that different factions should take their differences to Washington and give the impression there that the people of this Territory are simply a lot of scoundrels.

THE SOUTH POLE.

Large remarkable voyages in arctic and antarctic regions, and Commander Peary's recent statement of the "possibility that the Stars and Stripes might wave at both ends of the earth's 'axis,'" gave polar discussions continued prominence.

It should be remembered, however, that the real value of these undaunted endeavors is not comprised by the reaching of any particular geographical spot. The most important results of these explorations have been the scientific data obtained thereby. Accurate knowledge of the polar ice cap, of the extent and nature of exposed land surface, of meteorological phenomena, ocean currents, and such of plant and animal life—these are the actual frantages.

The hazards, in the past, have been due to lack of adequate equipment and number; polar exploration is an enterprise that long ago would have been accomplished if capital had soon large financial remunerating also. The self-sacrifice of the seafarers has given to mankind knowledge of incalculable value—and no one dare estimate the possible importance of such data as that gathered by polar explorers in recent years.

CONDITION GROWING WORSE.

Some weeks ago, The Advertiser quoted Fire Chief Throssell to the effect that should fire occur, 800 headmen in the business section of Honolulu, the fire department would be unable to cope with it.

The increasing volume of lumber in the business section of Honolulu, the business men have allowed their properties to continue on their way, block by block, into the hands of speculators. No progress is being made to have any leases made on the building lots, and the result of protracted negotiations, where Chief Throssell is drafting, will soon add to the present condition.

The buildings in the business section are being taken full advantage of by the business in the original sections,即 in Fort Street, River and near the Waterfront. Businesses have houses of flimsy, wooden buildings being erected to meet the law requirements. Many of these buildings are large structures, but little is being done with them.

With the rapid growth of lumber produced by mills situated at the edge of the business section, the lumbermen are finding themselves in the position of being unable to compete. A severe winter has nearly closed up all the lumber yards, and the lumbermen are unable to compete with the mills.

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STILL BOOSTING
BIG CAMPAIGN

THE campaign for the election of a member of Congress from the First District of Hawaii was opened yesterday morning with a meeting at the Hotel Moana.

John C. Dickey, the candidate for Congress, was the speaker, and the meeting was well attended.

He spoke of the importance of the campaign, and the need of a strong

and determined effort to elect a representative who would be able to represent the people of the First District.

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